

then bought and moved to the home in which he still resides, located at 3801 N.W. 186th Street, Miami Gardens, Florida.

As the patriarch of his family, he loves attending family functions to see the four generations of his children. He is still very active, he enjoys fishing at the lake, vegetable gardening and watching baseball games. He always has a quick smile and something witty to say. He is a man of good report, full of spirit and the wisdom of years.

Madam Speaker and my colleagues, I ask that you join me in honoring James P. Cheever today. I hope we all have the good fortune to live such a full life as he has. He is a great man and his family and friends are very proud of all of these achievements.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE DISTINGUISHED CAREER OF JACK FUCHS

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 31, 2007

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize long-time Tempe resident, chemistry professor, professional tympanist and friend: Jack Fuchs.

Jack Fuchs is a remarkable person with a lifetime of achievements. He recently retired after 55 years of teaching at my alma mater, Arizona State University. Those of us in the ASU community believe that he is the longest-serving faculty member in the history of the university.

After serving in Europe during World War II, he arrived back in the States 62 years ago today. Jack wasted no time in pursuing a doctoral degree at the University of Illinois, which he earned in 1950. Two short years later, he packed up his car and set out for a teaching job in Tempe, which was located in foreign territory for an Illinois native—the deserts of Arizona.

Rather than returning home, the Fuchs thrived and put down roots. In addition to his teaching duties, Jack played professionally as the principal tympanist with the Phoenix Symphony for 25 years. He shared the stage with the likes of Jack Benny, Pablo Casals and Andres Segovia, just to name a few. He extended his musical career by performing with the Sun Cities Symphony Orchestra for almost 20 years more, until just 5 years ago.

Jack also managed to keep his friends and fellow faculty members on their toes with a mean game of tennis. Playing with legendary coaches like Frank Kush, Bobby Winkles and Ned Wulk did not dim his competitive drive to win.

These other accomplishments might give the impression that his professional life took a back seat. Nothing could be further from the truth. Among other posts, Jack served as executive officer of the chemistry department for 14 years, as well as national president of the Society for Applied Spectroscopy.

But as a fellow teacher, I know Jack's true love was being in the classroom. Every year for almost 40 years he offered summer programs to young students to share with them the love and excitement of chemistry he discovered himself as a young boy. Who wouldn't love to spend their summers exploring the

wonders of infrared and ultraviolet absorption spectroscopy or modern industrial spectroscopy?

Even today, after 55 years in the classroom, Jack maintains an office at the university and can be found, as always, involved with students 2 to 3 days a week.

I offer my sincere thanks and congratulations on a job well done.

TRIBUTE TO THE ASIAN-AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 31, 2007

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is with sincere admiration that I recognize the Asian-American Medical Association, which will be hosting their 31st annual dinner and charity ball on Saturday, November 3, 2007, at the Avalon Manor in Hobart, Indiana. Each year, the Asian-American Medical Association pays tribute to prominent, outstanding citizens and organizations for their contributions to the community. In recognition of their efforts, these honorees are awarded the prestigious Crystal Globe Award each year at this annual banquet.

The Asian-American Medical Association has always been a great asset to northwest Indiana. Its members have selflessly dedicated themselves to providing quality medical service to the residents of Indiana's First Congressional District, and they have always demonstrated exemplary service through their many cultural, scholastic, and charitable endeavors.

At this year's charity ball, the Asian-American Medical Association will present the Crystal Globe Award to the Indiana University School of Medicine—Northwest. Founded in 1972, the Indiana University School of Medicine—Northwest, which began with only four faculty members, has become the largest regional campus of the Indiana University School of Medicine outside of Bloomington and Indianapolis. Located on the campus of Indiana University—Northwest in Gary, Indiana, the school has received acclaim for its curriculum and innovation on a local, national, and international level. In particular, the Problem Based Learning Curriculum, which uses patient case studies as their primary educational tool, has received numerous accolades for the university since its inception in 1990. Since its founding in 1972 under the leadership of Dr. Panayotis Iatridis, the contributions of the Indiana University School of Medicine—Northwest, both in the education of its students and its commitment to the future, have been a source of pride and hope for the First Congressional District.

While the past 35 years have shown immense advancements in the school's curriculum, the future appears even brighter for the Indiana University School of Medicine—Northwest. Under the leadership of Dr. Patrick Bankston, the school has made plans to expand class size and to add the final two years of medical education to the curriculum. Once this plan becomes a reality, which may occur as early as 2011, northwest Indiana will, for the first time, allow students to complete their medical education within the region.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in commending the Asian-American Medical Association, as well as this year's Crystal Globe Award recipient, the Indiana University School of Medicine—Northwest, for their outstanding contributions to medicine and to the community. Their members' unwavering commitment to improving the quality of life for the people of northwest Indiana and throughout the world is truly inspirational. For these reasons, they are to be praised, and I am proud to serve as their Representative in Washington, D.C.

SUPPORT OF INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION WEEK

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 31, 2007

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of International Education Week, which is sponsored by the Departments of Education and State. International Education Week reminds us of the value of learning foreign languages and learning about foreign cultures and traditions.

In an increasingly interdependent global community, it is important for America's students to be students of the world, and to have the opportunity to study abroad. While such cultural exchanges benefit the individual, they are equally important for America's international competitiveness and national security. Still, a survey from the Institute of International Education shows that during the 2004/2005 school year, fewer than one percent of American undergraduates studied abroad. This event reminds us that we can and must do better.

This week also reminds us of the importance of foreign language study. Studies have shown that early exposure to foreign language education in elementary school has been found to improve children's thinking processes, which help student achievement across all subject areas.

It is my great hope that this year, from November 12 through November 16, all those who recognize the importance of American involvement in the world will take part in International Education Week.

IN RECOGNITION OF RON MAY

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 31, 2007

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize State Senator Ron May and the contributions he has made to my hometown of Colorado Springs and the State of Colorado during his 27 years as a public servant. Senator May, who has honorably represented the 10th Senate District of Colorado since 2001, will officially step down today, Wednesday, October 31, 2007. A principled, capable legislator and a likeable, good-natured man, Senator May will be sincerely missed by those who served with him in the State Capital, including myself, and the residents of Colorado Springs.

Senator May's lifelong dedication to public service began when he joined the Air Force in 1953. During his twenty-year military career, Senator May gained extensive knowledge in the areas of computer programming and technology. This training shaped his post-military career as he was a charter member of the United States Internet Council, and served on Colorado's Information Management Commission as well as the Multi-Use Network Service.

In the State legislature, Senator May's technological expertise was invaluable, as was his dedication to transportation infrastructure. Senator May worked tirelessly to create funding within the budget that was devoted solely to Colorado roadways, an action that demonstrated his commitment to responsible government spending.

Today I honor Senator May's selfless career and express my gratitude, as a resident of Colorado Springs, for the positive things he has done for our city, county, and State. He was a reliable vote for and a proponent of the conservative values upon which our country was founded. Although I am sad to see his public career come to an end, I know that we will continue to benefit from Senator May's legacy. I wish him and his wife, Onella, their fine children, and grandchildren, all the best in his new career and life.

HONORING FIRE CHIEF LUTHER
FINCHER

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 31, 2007

Mrs. MYRICK. Madam Speaker, Charlotte, NC is losing one of its most dedicated public servants with the retirement of Fire Chief Luther Fincher after 45 years. I have personally known and worked with Luther for over 24 years. His professional achievements are many—including managing our Homeland Security Programs and the Urban Area Security Initiative. Luther was instrumental in the development of our ALERT team and led it with distinction. It was his dedication and experience that made it a reality and has helped Charlotte to be recognized as the third most prepared city in the country for emergency management.

He is a charter member and past president of the International Association of Fire Chiefs and has represented this organization all over the world, as well as playing a role in passing significant fire legislation on a federal level. He was also instrumental in establishing the four-year program on Fire Engineering Technology at UNC-Charlotte.

His awards and accomplishments are many, but I am most proud of the fact that Luther Fincher is one of the most loyal, sincere, family-oriented men I have ever known. I am proud to call him friend.

He is retiring as Fire Chief, but I know he will continue to lend his expertise to our city and the Nation.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL SPINA
BIFIDA MONTH

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 31, 2007

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, as Co-Chair of the Congressional Spina Bifida Caucus I rise today to recognize October as National Spina Bifida Month. Currently, more than 70,000 people in the United States live with Spina Bifida, the Nation's most common permanently disabling birth defect. Each October we honor these Americans during National Spina Bifida Month, but we must be steadfast in our efforts year round to prevent and reduce suffering from this devastating birth defect.

Spina Bifida is a neural tube defect that occurs in the first month of pregnancy when the spinal column does not close completely. An average of eight babies a day are born with Spina Bifida or a similar birth defect of the brain and spine. Currently, approximately 3,000 pregnancies each year are affected by Spina Bifida; however, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CDC, estimates that up to 70 percent of Spina Bifida and other neural tube defects could be prevented if all women of childbearing age consumed 400 micrograms of folic acid daily, prior to becoming pregnant.

Fortunately, the CDC's National Spina Bifida Program—which I helped to create with my colleague and caucus co-chair Representative BART STUPAK—plays a critical role in addressing both sides of the Spina Bifida equation—preventing the birth defect and providing support and quality-of-life enhancement for people living with it. I am proud that the National Spina Bifida Program—in its more than 4 years of existence—is making a significant difference in the lives of people with Spina Bifida. Now patients, parents, health professionals, and caregivers have the information and resources they need to ensure that quality-of-life is maximized for all who live with this condition and that we are doing our best to reduce the number of Spina Bifida affected pregnancies through education and awareness of women about the importance of their consumption of folic acid prior to becoming pregnant.

I want to express my deep gratitude to my colleagues on the House Appropriations Committee who allocated \$5.535 million for the National Spina Bifida Program in the FY 2008 Labor-Health and Human Services-Education, LHHS, bill. As members of the House and Senate LHHS Subcommittees work to reconcile the differences between their bills, I urge my colleagues to cede to the House allocation and help ensure that the National Spina Bifida Program receives adequate funding in the final FY 2008 LHHS measure so it can sustain and expand its important initiatives.

In addition, I hope my colleagues will support the report language from the Senate FY 2008 Agriculture Appropriations measure which urges the FDA to review—and hopefully expand—current folic acid fortification standards so that we can continue to make strides in reducing the number of preventable neural tube defects.

Lastly, I wish to thank the Spina Bifida Association, SBA, for playing a critical role in

helping those living with and affected by this debilitating birth defect. Founded in 1973, SBA is the nation's only organization solely dedicated to advocating on behalf of the Spina Bifida community. Through its nearly 60 chapters in more than 125 communities, the SBA brings expectant parents together with those who have a child with Spina Bifida. This interaction helps to answer questions and concerns, but most importantly it lends much needed support and provides hope and inspiration.

I thank the SBA for its partnership and its commitment to ensuring that we are doing all that we can to reduce and prevent suffering from Spina Bifida. I encourage my colleagues to join with me in recognizing October as National Spina Bifida Month and in educating our constituents about the importance of folic acid consumption among women of child-bearing age. Together, with the SBA, we can help prevent Spina Bifida.

A TRIBUTE TO ELIZABETH SHELL
CARR

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 31, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an exceptional and caring woman on this day of her retirement, Elizabeth Shell Carr. Elizabeth Carr, a New York licensed Clinical Social Worker, spent her first years in Virginia with the Harlem Veteran's Center as a Military Sexual Trauma Counselor for combat and non-combat veterans.

Elizabeth Carr recalls one of her most gratifying experiences as the organizer of a successful SPA Treatment Day which included breakfast, lunch, and the dissemination of information by the Mayor's Office of Veteran Affairs. Nearly 50 women attended, each of them receiving a gift, as well as a certificate of appreciation from New York State Senator Velmanette Montgomery for their service to our country.

For the past 2 years, Elizabeth Carr enjoyed working closer to home at Brooklyn's VA Medical Center. She is a former member of the Social Work Education committee, assisted with annual programs for "Women in Government" and Black History Month at the VA. She received a monetary performance award for her outstanding contribution to the Employee Assistance Program.

Elizabeth Carr is a clinician with more than 25 years experience in health and mental health. She was previously employed with St. Luke's Roosevelt Medical Center and was also an adjunct professor of Graduate Social Work at both Columbia University and New York University.

Elizabeth Carr is a long time resident of the Willoughby Walk Cooperative Apartments in Brooklyn. She is proud of her close knit community and is actively involved. She has served many years as floor captain within the co-op. She is also active in her church, Emmanuel Baptist. She was co-editor of the church newspaper, member and chairperson for the Missions and Benevolence Ministry, and committee member for the church and cooperative's commemorative anniversaries in both 2006 and 2007.